NEW INFORMATION:
Weekly Effort Report Form Is Live
Academic Innovation Funds
NCCEP GEAR UP Summer School
Data Corner - CENSUS Data Resources

Weekly Effort Report Form Is Live

Thank you to those who shared suggestions for capturing our effort in response to the updated guidance provided by the U.S. Department of Education Office of Postsecondary Education (OPE) in early June. The guidance provides some flexibility for grantees to continue paying salaries during closures, while also requiring that sufficient documentation of effort is in place during the time that services are disrupted due to school closures.

Starting this week, all staff paid a salary using GEAR UP funds will need to complete the Weekly Effort Report Form by Monday each week to report the previous week’s accomplishments. At this time, we will plan to use this form as long as service delivery to students is disrupted. The form is intentionally developed to be as simple as possible while still remaining in compliance with the guidance; therefore, we do not anticipate it taking longer than 10 minutes to complete weekly. It is important that these responses adequately represent a full work week, but it is not expected that any time allotments are provided.

The link to the reporting form can be found [here](#). Click [here](#) to see an example.

Supplemental staff time such as bus drivers, tutors, substitutes, etc. will continue using the same documentation standards currently in place; therefore, this form is not needed for those employees. We know that many districts are already tracking effort in various ways and we worked to try and take those various methods into account. As we begin using this process, we will consider opportunities for improvement. Your feedback is valued and can be provided to Corinne.
**Academic Innovation Funds**

Have the desire to do something extraordinary within the classroom but lacking the flexibility within your budget? This year’s Academic Innovation Fund will serve as a special reserve for unique and impactful academic opportunities.

Teachers and school administrators will have the option of drawing upon these funds throughout GY07 in partnership with Doug Thompson to develop and organize innovative approaches to learning. Of course all spending will have to be allowable under GEAR UP regulations. We are open and eager to support your interested teachers/administrators and encourage their creativity in academic instruction.

Please click the images below and share with teachers within your county that are eligible for participation.

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**NCCEP GEAR UP Summer School**

NCCEP is hosting a 3-day professional development experience to learn, share, and help prepare GEAR UP professionals for the next school year. The online event will be held Monday, August 10 through Wednesday, August 12 from 1PM-6PM daily. Registration for the complete event is $300 or $150 for single-day attendance. Registration will open around July 6, 2020.

Learn more about the event here.
The following is information that was shared with us from Carolina Demography. You may remember, Carolina Demography put the infographic reports together for your districts last year. To put these reports together, they used data from a number of sources such as the U.S. Census. They have currently been tracking North Carolina state and county-level response rates. As of June 7th, NC was ranked 33 out of 50 states in response to the census with a 44.8% online completion.

To learn about your county response rate: https://www.ncdemography.org/2020-census-tracker/

To view information about your county, click the second link on this page (see arrow, below).

The results from the census will inform decisions as to how federal dollars will be allocated across our communities. This includes decisions for funding education, school lunches, infrastructure, services for families and children, etc. A clear understanding of a district’s demographics will help target programs and grants. If interested, we wanted to share some resources to help you spread the message.

US Census:

- Provides timeline for completion of census (a “respond” button is found in the far right corner that will take individuals directly to the census): https://2020census.gov/en/important-dates.html
- Challenge to complete the census: https://2020census.gov/en/how-to-help.html
- Explore census data: https://data.census.gov/cedsci/
Marketing & Communications Files

Do you need anything in our GEAR UP Resource Folder personalized? Do you want us to create something similar in your district? We can tweak any resource to fit the needs of your district, and we encourage you to brainstorm any ideas of how our resources can serve your needs! Districts may use any of the resources from this folder at any time. If a district wants to make any edits to an existing item in the folder, they will need to complete the Resource Request form. We will continually add items to this folder, so be sure to check back often. If you would like App State to print a resource in the folder, please allow 30 days for printing and delivery of the materials. Contact Elyssee Gibson (gibsonse@appstate.edu) with any questions.

We are actively working to create additional 7th year programming materials to add to the folder.

Have Suggestions?

We love to hear your ideas! Do you have suggestions that will help us improve? At any time, please provide your feedback by clicking the button on the left. Thanks for taking the time to help us continuously grow and improve.